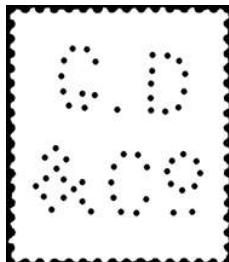


GRAY, DUNN & Co

Jeff Turnbull

I have recently bought an unusual and I think quite unique perfin collection of "G.D.&Co.. - G1375.01 - Gray, Dunn & Co". The

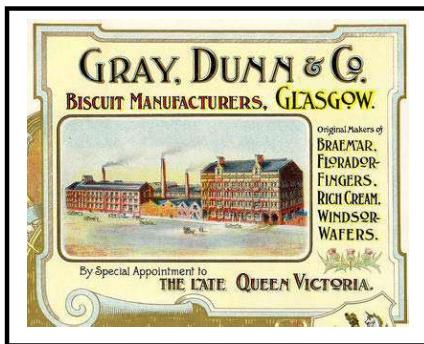


collection comprises of perfins with 262 different postmarks from all around the United Kingdom! There are 71 from offices in Scotland including 7 from different Western Isles, 1 from the Isle of Man, 14 from Ireland, 20 from Wales, & 156 from



England. The stamps are mostly 1d red King Edward VII with some ½d as well, and one 1½d. There are only two Victorian, a used one and one mint copy.

The origin of the collection is unknown, but I think it was collected between 1904-1907 possibly by a Company employee (maybe for his son). All of the visible dates are between 1904-1907, and at that time Gray, Dunn and similar companies would have employed sales personnel based in various regions of the country. They would have been supplied with the perfin stamps and order cards to send back orders to the Company in Glasgow. It can be seen from the cancels that various sales personnel were involved with the sales, as postmarks of the same day are recorded from Scotland and from the South of England.



Gray, Dunn & Co. were bakers and biscuit manufacturers. The company was founded in 1853 and received a Royal Warrant from Queen Victoria. The firm's factory was built in Stanley Street in Kinning Park, Glasgow in 1862 but destroyed by fire thirteen years later and it had to be rebuilt. In addition to biscuits,

Gray, Dunn & Co baked cakes and bread at Kinning Park. Bilsland Brothers acquired the firm in 1912. They became a limited Company in 1924 and are now a member of the Rowntree Macintosh Group. The company are also known to have used perfin die G1360.01.